

In the Palace of the Tuilleries, or in whatever imperial residence the Emperor of the French may be, he is ever accompanied by what is termed "Le Cabinet de l'Empereur," meaning his Private Secretary or *chef*, a secretary, and two attachés of the first office, *les quatre huissiers* or usher.

ers, and copy to His Majesty, and the Chinese Cabinet. The First Secretary is looked upon as one of the most important personages in France. He is the chief interpreter, and the guardian of the French language. He is the date of the various treaties and the date of the numerous. He is generally called upon to prepare all the public papers made by the Emperor, to look over and arrange, in accordance with the importance, the dispatches, letters, and petitions addressed to him. Moreover, when he is to answer the will of the sovereign, he is to give direction to his attachés, and to the will of the sovereign in each case. Persons desiring audiences of the Emperor receive their replies from the Chef du Cabinet, and as he is allowed great latitude in deciding whether

er the applications shall ever be made to the imperial master, his own importance from this very fact vastly increased. Each morning the Chief receives from his subordinates the documents to be presented to the Emperor. He selects from the number such as are to be at once answered, and with a scratch of his pen disposes of a petition for pardon, for advancement, relief, &c. No scrawled piece of paper or epistle means that the attitude shall make a decided refusal. A curt premonitory "no" is to be addressed to the unhappy person who wrote the petition—"Desu naita poto possible?"—very sorry, but it is not possible, is understood by the

"*Vous avez raison*"—we shall see, bring forth an answer to a petition, which encourages the writer to hope—and so on, with different, but brief indications, the Chief conducts the business of replying to letters addressed to the Cabinet of the Emperor. As some hundreds are received daily, the labor would be too much, did not the attaches throw in the waste-basket scores of these epistles. About a third of the number reach the Chief, and some half-dozen are read to the Emperor. The work of answering these is not easy, by any means. Coming from very important personages,

in many cases from royalty, from cardinals and Bishops, Princes and Dukes, leading politicians, and sometimes moultards or spies—the replies have to be carefully worded to suit the person addressed. Great caution has to be observed that not only the tone may please the party to receive the letter, but also that the Emperor may be satisfied with it, and herein lies the great difficulty of the Chef. At times, like other mortals, His Majesty is more hard to please, and then the labors of the Chef are onerous. He has the relative satisfaction, however, of turning his people discontent upon the attaches, and then in turn attack the ushers. On these days

days, the people who come to the "Cabin of the Emperor" by appointment, find it a pleasant place. At other times they are charmed with the polite manner and cordial reception of the white-cravated, brown-uniformed *huissiers*. The Chief not only has letters to answer; he must sort out the dispatches from the Ministries of War, Foreign Affairs, Navy and Finance. And he reports from the Prefect of Police, and, lastly, the printed slips containing the important extracts from the English, Spanish, German, Austrian, Russian, Italian and American journals. The Emperor insists on looking over all these, or, at any rate, the most important, and up-

The Sous Chef is more an ornament than a useful member of the Cabinet. He is generally a person of distinct supposition to be necessary because he draws a salary, but in reality he does not

except in the case of the illness of the Emperor, when for the time he assumes, ostensibly, the position, the work being done by his attaches. The Sous Chef, in fact, his sinecure.

The Emperor is disinclined to admit many persons into the secrets of "Cabinet," so the Chef and attaches alone allowed access to the correspondence. To secure the fidelity of the latter, large salaries and magnificent decorations are bestowed upon them; even they are kept but partially in the confidence of the Sovereign. The spy used by his spies, near the thrones of Europe, or that used by emperors

politics, people, who correspond with Majesty, are never revealed to a third party, the Emperor and the Chief alone being able to make out the real meaning of such dispatches. Herein, again, the power and influence of the Chief are augmented. Knowing the most secret resolve of master, he is aware of the ultimate disposal of important questions, of promulgation, and can act according to his benefit and that of his followers and vortices, by whom he is, of course, surrounded. A hint from the Chief often enriches those whom he chooses to give it to, and he at the same time casts his own purse, a fact proved by the

In a lesser degree the two attaches powerful and influential. They are ordered to throw aside such letters and petitions as seem to them trivial or absurd. There are many such, and they are where personal interest leads to it, or anger and spite prompt them, set aside letters and petitions more important than are allowed to open their eyes to. Many in such a manner are wrong but the superior Chief may break the seal, and accordingly they are counted and made account of. A promise to further a suit

His Majesty by one of the attaches eagerly sought after, as they may in reality do much in aid of the petitioner's great prominence to his case.

As said above, the parties forming the Cabinet of the Emperor accompany him wherever he may be. Couriers, alert and zealous, have charge of the mails to His Majesty, and in no instance will consent to be without his daily batch of letters and papers. Even when on pleasure trip, or out shooting, if he is to remain more than a day, he is accompanied by members of the Cabinet, and carries their reports and documents. In the Italian war, and in all his

ing through the department of the Empire, or during his voyage to Algeria, functions of the Cabinet were never suspended. The Empress was in Paris "Regente," but all the work of the administration, its real direction, was presided over by the Emperor, through his aides and attaches of the Private Cabinet. Assigned by a long day's journey or by the supervision of a great and hotly contested battle, the Emperor did not rest until he had gone through the time of the duties of his Cabinet. He inspected the letters pronounced important by the Chief, agreed with the latter as to the answers to be made, dispatched

in shet, each day he attended regularly to his self-imposed task. Thus your readers will understand that through the constant personal attention of His Majesty the Private Cabinet may be looked upon as the most important institution in the Empire. — H. A.

LOVE, LAW, TAR AND FEATHERS.—Calvert, of Laporte, eloped with Nunn, who "wouldn't be a nun." Calvert was arrested and prosecuted by outraged husband, whom absconding wife soothed by a healing plaster in the shape of a deed for a house and lot, and Calvert made over to one of the lawyers.

children. Mrs. Nunn was then permitted to deed her property to her children. Then the two were permitted to depart from the temple of justice. On leaving the room, Calvert was surrounded by a crowd of sympathizing friends, who congratulated him in triumph to a neighboring room where they presented him with a tight-fitting suit of eloquence, the materials for which originally came from the inside of a pine log and the outside of a goose. A party of the lady's friends were equally generously inclined to her, but were prevented from carrying out their designs by the meddlesome interference of the City Marshal. (Ed.)

made their appearance in the land. The animal grows rapidly and is destructive. Some think it is the worm.

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